

by the Union Government and the amount sanctioned therefor;

(c) the reasons for not approving the remaining proposals; and

(d) the time by which remaining proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Two major and six medium irrigation projects and proposals for 24 anti-erosion schemes including retirement were received by the Union Government from the Government of Assam during the last three years.

(b) 12 Anti-erosion projects including retirements totalling Rs. 66 crores have been cleared.

(c) The examination of 1 Anti-erosion scheme has not been completed, but all others have been sent to State Government for carrying out the modifications based upon the observations made by Central Appraising Agencies.

(d) The time by which the proposals can be cleared depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations by Central Appraising Agencies.

[Translation]

Licences to Manufacturing Milk Powder

4085. SHRISURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued by the Government for manufacturing of milk powder; and

(b) whether the Government propose to

review such licences in view of the present shortage of milk in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIGIRIDHARGOMANGO): (a) and (b). As per Press Note No. 9 of 1991, requirement of obtaining an industrial licence under IDR Act 1951 by an industrial undertaking for manufacture of milk foods including milk powder has been done away with subject to certain locational parameters. However, before delicensing, 87 units were granted industrial licences under IDR ACT for manufacture of milk foods, the majority of which produce milk powder. The supply of liquid milk by Delhi Milk Scheme, Mother Dairy and other agencies in Delhi is reasonably adequate.

[English]

Gandhar Gas Power Project

4086. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.
TOPIWALA:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government that the Gandhar Gas Based Power Project be utilised for peak load purposes and not based load;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to clear this project as a base load power station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI

KALP NATH RAI: (a) to (c). The proposal for installation of Gandhar Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project (615MW) by the Gujarat State, in the State Sector, was techno-economically approved by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in October, 1989, on base load basis, at an estimated cost of Rs. 573.73 Crores, subject to confirmation of 2.25 MCMD of gas by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. The total quantity of gas available from the Gandhar gas-fields for power generation, keeping in view the commitments already made, is of the order of about 3 MCMD. The Government of India have, in consultation with the State of Gujarat, decided in January, 1992 that the available gas be utilised for setting up of two power projects—one in the Central Sector by the National Thermal Power Corporation and other in the State Sector by the Gujarat authorities by utilising 1.5 MCMD of gas in each of these power stations. This linkage of 1.5 MCMD of gas would enable the stations to operate on variable load basis. The Gandhar CCGT project proposed to be set up in the State Sector is required to be re-appraised by the CEA to enable it to operate on variable load basis with reference to gas linkage of 1.5 MCMD and the need for updating the cost estimates to bring them to a realistic level. Both the CEA and the Gujarat State Govt. have been advised to take necessary action in this regard. The State Sector project of Gujarat could be considered for sanction only after it has received techno-economic approval as aforesaid.

It has also been decided by the Government in January' 92 that if any additional gas becomes available at the Gandhar Gas fields it should be allocated to the NTPC's power project and the Gujarat Government's power project at Gandhar to take their allocation to 2.25 MCMD so that they could operate as base load stations.

Leasing out to Lakshadweep Islands

4087. SHRICANDRAJEETYADAV:

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lease out two islands falling within Lakshadweep to private parties for the Development of tourism;

(b) if so, the criteria proposed to be adopted for this purpose; and

(c) the tourist traffic anticipated as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). It is proposed to give two islands namely Thinakkara and Cheriyam with an area of approximately 41.8 hect. and 45.5 hect. respectively on long term lease for development of tourism resorts based on international competitive offers. Offers will be considered in accordance with investment policy, environment regulations and other factors related to the need for development of tourism infrastructure and facilities in the country. The development of new island resorts will diversify and enrich the Indian tourism product and increase tourist traffic to the country.

[Translation]

Electronic Exchanges in Gujarat and Haryana

4088. SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:
SHRI AVATAR SINGH BHADANA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: